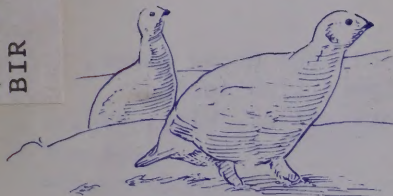


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BIRDS OF THE

KENAI

NATIONAL MOOSE RANGE

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The Kenai National Moose Range was established in 1941 to ensure the continued existence of this great animal and its habitat. This 1,730,000-acre range is located in the northwestern part of the Kenai Peninsula in south-central Alaska. Headquarters are in the city of Kenai.

The Moose Range extends from Turnagain Arm on the north to the Caribou Hills and Sheep Creek on the south, and from the Kenai Mountains and Chugach National Forest boundary on the east to the homestead area bordering Cook Inlet and the Kenai River.

The area possesses two distinct physiographic features--the Kenai Mountains and the Kenai lowland. The lowland portion, comprising three-fourths of the refuge, was once covered by a large valley glacier, leaving a myriad of lakes in the wake of its retreat. The area is drained by four principal rivers, the Chickaloon, Swanson, Kenai, and Kasilof, the last having its origin in the glaciers of the Harding Ice Field.

Vegetative cover varies in the lowlands from muskeg swamp to a white spruce climax on the drier sites. Stands of birch, aspen, cottonwood, willow, alder, and black and white spruce occur in pure stands and mixtures. The understory is composed of sedges, grasses, lichens, shrubs, mosses, and herbaceous plants. A considerable amount of alpine tundra exists above timberline.

Thousands of waterfowl use the rivers, lakes, muskegs, and mud flats as resting and feeding places in their migrations, with twelve species nesting in the area. Large numbers of shore birds and countless land birds also breed in the area. The rare trumpeter swan, a bird requiring wilderness isolation, nests on the interior lakes.

In addition to the giant Kenai moose, bands of white or Dall sheep and mountain goats may be found in the mountains, with limited numbers of big brown bear and the more abundant black bear distributed throughout the area. Fur animals include the beaver, land otter, lynx, coyote, mink, weasel, wolverine, hoary marmot, red squirrel, and remnant populations of marten, fox, and wolf. Small game includes three species of ptarmigan, spruce grouse, and snowshoe hare.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

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All five species of Pacific salmon spawn within the Moose Range, making its waters of great economic importance. Sport fish include rainbow, steelhead, Dolly Varden and lake trout, and silver, king, and red salmon.

Located near Alaskan population centers, the Moose Range provides a much used public area for outdoor recreation. Over 125 lakes are suitable for float-plane operations. Places along lakes and streams near the road system have been developed to provide recreational use by highway travelers. Fishing, hunting, camping, and photography are the main forms of recreation.

Special acknowledgment is given Mrs. Mary A. Smith, Cohoe, Alaska, for the use of her very complete, almost daily records from 1955 through 1962. Much assistance was given by Peter E. Isleib, Anchorage, Alaska, in the form of field work and compiling the list. Critical review was generously performed by Francis S. L. Williamson, Arctic Health Research Center, Anchorage, Alaska. Steven R. Smith, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Kenai, Alaska, compiled the list.

The list contains 146 regular and 22 accidental or casual species listed separately. Those for which definite breeding records have been obtained are marked with an asterisk. Season and abundance symbols as used herein follow:

S - April-May	a - abundant
S - June-July	c - common
F - August-October	u - uncommon
W - November-March	o - occasional
	r - rare
	i - irregular

	<u>S</u> <u>S</u> <u>F</u> <u>W</u>		<u>S</u> <u>S</u> <u>F</u> <u>W</u>
*Common Loon	c c c	*Green-winged Teal	c c c
*Arctic Loon	c c u	*American Widgeon	u u u
Red-throated Loon	u u r	*Shoveler	u r r
*Red-necked Grebe	u c c	Canvasback	r r
*Horned Grebe	u c c	*Greater Scaup	u u u r
*Double-crested Cormorant	u u u	Common Goldeneye	c c u
Whistling Swan	c u	*Barrow's Goldeneye	c c c
*Trumpeter Swan	c c c r	Bufflehead	u u i
*Canada Goose	c r c	Oldsquaw	r u i
Black Brant	r i r	*Harlequin Duck	u u u i
White-fronted Goose	u u	Common Eider	r
Snow Goose	c r	White-winged Scoter	r u u i
*Mallard	c u c r	Surf Scoter	r r r
Gadwall	r r r	Common Scoter	r r r
*Pintail	a c c	*Common Merganser	u u c u

S S F W

*Red-breasted Merganser	u u u
*Goshawk	c c c c
*Sharp-shinned Hawk	u u u
*Red-tailed Hawk	r r r
*Harlan's Hawk	u u u
Rough-legged Hawk	r r r
*Golden Eagle	u u u
*Bald Eagle	c c c u
*Marsh Hawk	u u u
*Osprey	r r r
Gyr Falcon	r r r r
*Peregrine Falcon	u r r i
*Pigeon Hawk	u u u
*Spruce Grouse	c c c c
*Willow Ptarmigan	c c c c
*Rock Ptarmigan	u u u u
*White-tailed Ptarmigan	c c c c
*Sandhill Crane	c u c
*Semipalmated Plover	u u u
Killdeer	r
American Golden Plover	u u
Black-bellied Plover	u r
Surf Bird	r r r
Ruddy Turnstone	r r
Black Turnstone	r r r
*Common Snipe	c c c
Whimbrel	u r u
*Spotted Sandpiper	c c c
*Solitary Sandpiper	u u u
*Wandering Tattler	u u u
*Greater Yellowlegs	a a a
*Lesser Yellowlegs	c c c
Pectoral Sandpiper	c c
Baird's Sandpiper	r r
*Least Sandpiper	c c u
Dunlin	u r
*Short-billed Dowitcher	c c c
Long-billed Dowitcher	r
Semipalmated Sandpiper	r
*Western Sandpiper	c r u
*Hudsonian Godwit	r r r
Sanderling	r r r
*Northern Phalarope	c c u
Parasitic Jaeger	u u r
*Long-tailed Jaeger	u r r
Glaucous Gull	r r r
*Glaucous-winged Gull	c c c r
*Herring Gull	c c c
*Mew Gull	a a c
*Bonaparte's Gull	u u u

S S F W

Black-legged Kittiwake	r r r
*Arctic Tern	a a u
Aleutian Tern	r r r
*Great Horned Owl	c c c c
Snowy Owl	r
Hawk-Owl	u u u u
Great Gray Owl	r r r r
*Short-eared Owl	u u u r
Boreal Owl	u u u u
Saw-whet Owl	r r r r
*Belted Kingfisher	u u u i
*Yellow-shafted Flicker	r r r
*Hairy Woodpecker	u u u r
*Downy Woodpecker	u u u r
Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker	r r r r
*Northern Three-toed Woodpecker	u u u u
*Say's Phoebe	r r r
*Traill's Flycatcher	c a a
*Western Wood Pewee	r r r
*Olive-sided Flycatcher	r u r
*Horned Lark	u u u
*Violet-green Swallow	c c
*Tree Swallow	c a
*Bank Swallow	c a c
*Cliff Swallow	r u
*Gray Jay	c c c c
Steller's Jay	r
*Black-billed Magpie	c c c c
*Common Raven	c c c c
*Black-capped Chickadee	u u u r
*Boreal Chickadee	c c c u
*Brown Creeper	u r u r
Dipper	u u u u
*Robin	c c c
*Varied Thrush	c c c
*Hermit Thrush	c c u
*Swainson's Thrush	c c u
*Gray-cheeked Thrush	u c u
*Golden-crowned Kinglet	u u u r
*Ruby-crowned Kinglet	a a c
*Water Pipit	c c c
*Bohemian Waxwing	c c c r
Northern Shrike	u u u r
*Orange-crowned Warbler	c c u
*Yellow Warbler	u u r
*Myrtle Warbler	a a c
Townsend's Warbler	r r r
*Blackpoll Warbler	r u r



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S S F WS S F W

*Northern Waterthrush	c c u	*Slate-colored Junco	c a c
*Wilson's Warbler	u c u	*Tree Sparrow	u u r
*Rusty Blackbird	u u u i	*White-crowned Sparrow	c c c
*Pine Grosbeak	u u u r	*Golden-crowned Sparrow	c c u
*Gray-crowned Rosy Finch	u u u	*Fox Sparrow	c c u
*Common Redpoll	c c c c	*Lincoln's Sparrow	u u r
*Pine Siskin	r r r i	*Song Sparrow	r r r
White-winged Crossbill	u u u u	Lapland Longspur	c u
*Savannah Sparrow	c a a	*Snow Bunting	u u u u

Listed below are 22 species that are considered to be of casual or accidental occurrence. These birds have been seen one or more times on the Moose Range or on closely adjacent areas.

No. of
Observations

Season

Great Blue Heron	6	Spring & Fall
Emperor Goose	3	Spring
Blue-winged Teal	1	Fall
European Widgeon	2	Spring
Ring-necked Duck ^{1/}	1	6/11/40
Lesser Scaup	1	Spring
King Eider	1	4/23/61
Sparrow Hawk	2	Spring & Fall
Sharp-tailed Grouse	2	Fall
Black Oystercatcher	4	Summer
Bristle-thighed Curlew ^{2/}	1	5/18/1869
Knot	5	Fall
Rock Sandpiper	4	Summer & Fall
Red Phalarope	2	Fall
Pomarine Jaeger	3	Spring & Summer
Mourning Dove	3	10/24/61
Rufous Hummingbird	2	Spring & Summer
Red-breasted Nuthatch ^{3/}	8	Spring, Summer & Fall
Winter Wren	2	Fall
Wheatear	2	Spring & Summer
Red Crossbill	2	Winter & Spring
Harris' Sparrow	1	10/24 & 25/60

^{1/} Gabrielson and Lincoln, 1959. Birds of Alaska, The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. pp. 178.

^{2/} Gabrielson and Lincoln, 1959. Birds of Alaska, The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. pp. 348 (Bischoff).

^{3/} Six of the eight observations were made in 1961.



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S S F WS S F W

*Northern Waterthrush
 *Wilson's Warbler
 *Rusty Blackbird
 *Pine Grosbeak
 *Gray-crowned Rosy Finch
 *Common Redpoll
 *Pine Siskin
 White-winged Crossbill
 *Savannah Sparrow

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*Slate-colored Junco
 *Tree Sparrow
 *White-crowned Sparrow
 *Golden-crowned Sparrow
 *Fox Sparrow
 *Lincoln's Sparrow
 *Song Sparrow
 Lapland Longspur
 *Snow Bunting

c a c
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Listed below are 22 species that are considered to be of accidental occurrence.
 the Moose Range or on cl

Great Blue Heron
 Emperor Goose
 Blue-winged Teal
 European Widgeon
 Ring-necked Duck1/
 Lesser Scaup
 King Eider
 Sparrow Hawk
 Sharp-tailed Grouse
 Black Oystercatcher
 Bristle-thighed Curlew2/
 Knot
 Rock Sandpiper
 Red Phalarope
 Pomarine Jaeger
 Mourning Dove
 Rufous Hummingbird
 Red-breasted Nuthatch3/
 Winter Wren
 Wheatear
 Red Crossbill
 Harris' Sparrow

1/ Gabrielson and Lincol
 Harrisburg, Pennsylv

2/ Gabrielson and Lincol
 Harrisburg, Pennsylv

3/ Six of the eight obs

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